

REMARKS

Claims 1, 4-9 and 12-16 are pending in this application, claims 2, 3, 10 and 11 having been cancelled and claims 15 and 16 being newly added by the above amendment. Of these claims, claims 1 and 8 stand rejected under 35 USC §112, first paragraph, for reciting a single means or step. Claims 3, 5-7 and 9-14 stand rejected under 35 USC §102(e) as being anticipated by Treyz et al. Claim 4 stands rejected under 35 USC §102(e) as being anticipated by Tang et al. Claim 2 stands rejected under 35 USC §103(a) as being unpatentable over Treyz et al. in view of Tang et al.

The specification and claims have been objected to because of the informalities identified on page 3 of the Office Action.

In view of the preceding amendments and the following remarks, these rejections and objections are traversed, and reconsideration of this application is respectfully requested.

The drawings have been objected to for failing to comply with 37 CFR §1.84(p)(5) because they include reference characters not discussed in the description. By the above amendment to the Specification, the elements in Figure 1 identified with reference characters 8, 9, 13 and 14 have been described in the Specification. No new matter has been entered. It is therefore respectfully requested that the objection to the drawings be withdrawn.

Further, the specification has been amended to replace "24" with "11" on page 14. It is therefore respectfully requested that the objection to the Specification be withdrawn.

Dependent claim 9 has been amended above to change “and” to “or”. It is therefore respectfully requested that the objection to claim 9 be withdrawn.

Claim 1 has been amended above to include more than one element and claim 8 has been amended to depend from claim 1. It is therefore respectfully requested that the 35 USC §112, first paragraph, rejection be withdrawn.

Applicant's invention, as more particularly amended above, is a multi-protocol adapter for simultaneously communicating with one or more remote computers over any one of a plurality of protocols. Independent claims 1 and 4 have been extensively amended above to more specifically claim the protocol adapter of the invention. No new matter has been entered by these amendments.

The multi-protocol adapter is a single device that is able to communicate with different external or remote computer systems regardless of the operating protocol that the remote computer system is using. The adapter includes an integrated CPU having an embedded operating system that allows the adapter to simultaneously communicate with a plurality of the computer systems, including one or more of interrogating, monitoring, retrieving data, downloading data, recording data, revising/updating data, performing diagnostics and revising/updating the operating program of the computer system. Applicant submits that the prior art of record does not teach or suggest a multi-protocol adapter that provides these functions.

U.S. Patent No. 6,526,335 issued to Treyz et al. discloses an automobile personal computer system that communicates with numerous devices and facilities, including hand-held computing devices, cellular telephones, wrist watches, laptop computers, etc., wirelessly via satellite networks. Applicant submits that the automobile

personal computer system disclosed and taught by Treyz et al. is not a protocol adapter that interrogates, monitors, retrieves data, downloads data, records data, revises data and performs diagnostics over any one of a plurality of computer protocols, where the adapter is capable of simultaneous communicating with a plurality of the computers running different protocols at the same time. Column 55, lines 3-24 of Treyz et al. talks about communicating with a toll collection facility that uses a different frequency and different communications protocol, but Treyz et al. does not teach or suggest that the personal computer can simultaneously communicate with more than one toll collection facility using different protocols at the same time.

U.S. Patent No. 6,298,370 issued to Tang et al. discloses a process of operating a computer system. Applicant acknowledges that the computer system disclosed by Tang et al. does include a CPU. However, Applicant submits that the computer system fairly taught and suggested by Tang et al. is not a protocol adapter that communicates with one or more remote computers for interrogating, monitoring, retrieving data, downloading data, recording data, revising data and performing diagnostics over any one of a plurality of computer protocols, especially where the adapter is capable of simultaneously communicating with a plurality of computers running different protocols. Column 86, lines 22-25 of Tang et al. discusses a stereo Kodak interface that supports different bus cycle protocols, DMA transfers and programmed I/O (PIO). However, Applicant respectfully submits that this section of Tang et al. does not teach or suggest simultaneously communicating with a plurality of remote computers where the computers are operating different computer protocols.

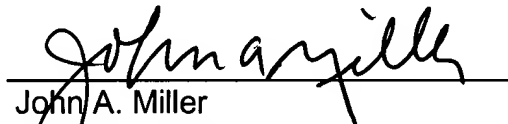
Applicant respectfully submits that Treyz et al. and Tang et al. do not teach or suggest a multi-protocol adapter as now more particularly claimed, whether taken alone or in combination. It is therefore respectfully requested that §102 and §103 rejections be withdrawn.

It is now believed that this application is in condition for allowance. If the Examiner believes that personal contact with Applicant's representative would expedite prosecution of this application, she is invited to call the undersigned at her convenience.

Respectfully submitted,

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